

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) An assembly for resecting of a selected bone section, comprising:
 - a drill guide to be disposed relative to the selected bone portion;
 - a bit guiding section defined by said drill guide, said bit guiding section defining a bit guiding bore;
 - a spigot including a bone engaging portion to engage the selected bone section and a reamer guiding portion;
 - a reamer guided by said reamer guiding portion to form a reamed portion of the selected bone section; and
 - a saw guide positionable relative to the reamed portion;wherein said spigot and said reamer cooperate to prepare the reamed portion for association with said saw guide for a selected procedure.

2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a drill bit; and
 - a saw;wherein said drill bit is guided by said bit guiding bore and said saw is guided by said saw guide.

3. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising:
a positioning rod;
wherein said positioning rod is positionable relative to the selected bone section to position said drill guide.

4. (Original) The assembly of claim 3, wherein said positioning rod is an intramedullary rod positionable in a medulla of the selected bone section during a procedure.

5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said bit guiding section is positionable relative to a portion of the selected bone section such that a bit may be driven into a portion of the selected bone section through said bit guiding bore.

6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said bit guiding bore of said bit guiding section includes a plurality of bit guiding bores arranged in a selected pattern;

wherein said selected pattern allows for guiding a drill bit in at least one of a plurality of selected portions relative to the selected bone section without moving said bit guiding section.

7. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said reamer guiding portion of said spigot includes a depth guide and a position guide.

8. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, wherein said depth guide limits a depth that is reamable by said reamer relative to the selected bone section.

9. (Original) The assembly of claim 2, wherein said saw is guided by said saw guide to resect a portion of a selected bone section that is left unreamed by said reamer.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of performing a less invasive bone resection procedure of a selected bone portion with instruments including a positioning rod, a drill guide, a saw guide, and a reamer, the method comprising:

forming an incision relative to the selected bone portion;

fixing the positioning rod relative to a portion of the selected bone portion;

disposing the drill guide relative with the positioning rod;

drilling a bore with a drill bit guided by said drill guide;

positioning a reamer guide relative to said bore;

reaming a selected portion of the selected bone portion to form a reamed section; [and]

disposing a saw guide relative to the reamed section; and

resecting a selected portion of the bone portion with a saw guided by said saw guide.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said forming an incision includes forming an incision about 1 cm to about 10 cm in length.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein positioning the positioning rod includes disposing the positioning rod into an intramedullary portion of the selected bone portion.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein disposing the drill guide includes:

positioning the drill guide with the positioning rod to hold the drill guide in a selected position; and

disposing the drill guide relative to a selected portion of the selected bone portion relative to the incision.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said selected bone portion is a condyle of a femur.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
disposing a spigot in the bore formed in the selected bone portion;
wherein reaming a selected portion includes reaming the selected bone portion by guiding the reamer with the spigot.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said saw guide and said saw are positioned through said incision.

18. (Original) A method of resecting a distal portion of a femur, comprising:
forming an incision relative to a first condyle of the femur;
forming a pilot bore relative to the first condyle;
reaming the first condyle to form a reamed portion; and
resecting a second condyle of the femur with a saw that is guided relative to the reamed portion;
wherein reaming the first condyle and the second condyle is performed substantially through the incision.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
disposing a positioning rod relative to the femur;
disposing a pilot bore forming guide with said positioning rod;
wherein forming a pilot bore includes forming a pilot bore with said pilot bore forming guide.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said pilot bore guide includes a selected pattern of pilot bore guide sections such that one of a plurality of pilot bores may be formed in the femur with a single positioning of said pilot bore guide.

21. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
positioning a reamer guide in said pilot bore;
wherein reaming the first condyle includes positioning a reamer relative to said reamer guide and reaming the first condyle.

22. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising positioning a tool guide relative to said reamed portion through said incision;
wherein resecting a second condyle includes guiding a tool with said tool guide to resect the second condyle.

23. (Original) An assembly for providing a less invasive resection of a distal femoral femur portion by providing an incision, through a soft tissue portion, positioned substantially near only a first condyle, the assembly comprising:
a positioning member to pass through the incision to position a first guide member to allow for positioning of a second guide member relative to the first condyle;
a second guide member held relative to the first condyle;
a first resecting tool to resect the first condyle and guided by said first guide member;
a third guide member held on the first condyle to resect a second condyle of the distal femoral portion;
wherein resecting the first condyle and the second condyle occurs through the incision.

24. (Original) The assembly of claim 23, wherein said positioning member is an intramedullary rod positioned in the distal femoral portion to allow for substantially accurate and fixed positioning of said first guide member.

25. (Original) The assembly of claim 23, wherein both said first guide member and said third guide member include a plurality of guide positions so that a plurality of selected positions may be reamed while said first and said third guide members are held in substantially a single position.

26. (Original) The assembly of claim 23, wherein said first guide member is a drill guide and said third guide member is a saw guide.

27. (Original) A method of reaming a selected bone portion comprising:
forming a first resected portion by resecting a first portion of the selected bone portion; and
resecting a second portion of the selected bone portion using said first resected portion;
wherein said resecting a second portion includes resecting a generally equivalent portion to said first resected portion.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming said first resected portion includes resecting a selected condyle of a femur.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming said first resected portion includes resecting a selected condyle of a femur through a small incision such that access is minimized initially to the first condyle.

30. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein resecting said second portion includes guiding an instrument generally with said first resected portion such that said second portion is substantially equivalent to said first resected portion.

31. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming a first resected portion includes:

positioning a reaming guide relative to said first portion of the selected bone portion; and

guiding a reamer with said reaming guide to form said first resected portion.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein resecting a second portion includes:

positioning a tool guide relative to said first resected portion to guide an instrument for resecting said second portion.